

Reference and Counsel – Motion 2.5

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RELATING TO: Provision for seminary updates to National Assembly

SUBMITTED BY: Jordan Smith, Synod Council, St. Ansgar Lutheran Church Toronto; Janelle Lightbourne, Trinity Lutheran London; Margaret Christenson, Zion Lutheran, Sault Ste. Marie

MOTION:

That the Eastern Synod Assembly 2018 encourage National Church Council to create a permanent agenda item for all future National Assemblies for reports from the seminaries of this church.

RATIONALE:

While overseen by the synod, guidelines for maintaining a theological seminary are provided by the ELCIC (ES Constitution XVII Section 1). As stated by the ELCIC Candidacy Manual 2017, “Candidates are considered for service according to national standards and by means of common procedures.” (6). Candidates of either seminary are expected to be qualified to serve across the ELCIC (Candidacy Manual, 6). While the board of governors of Waterloo Lutheran Seminary is required to report to the Eastern Synod Assembly, it would be beneficial for the national assembly to also hear about the changes, dreams, and successes happening at both of the church’s seminaries. This report would be for information purposes only, in much the same way NCC at Assembly 2017 was directed to hear reports from LCBI and Luther College at future assemblies.

RECOMMENDATION:

Adoption